

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action identified above, and is further responsive in any other manner indicated below.

DRAWING OBJECTIONS/SPECIFICATION ADJUSTED

At Items 4 and 5 on page 2 of the 4 December 2003 Action, the drawings are objected to for containing reference numerals/signs which are not in the disclosure and for not containing reference numerals which are in the disclosure. Appropriate locations of Applicant's specification have been amended to correct the erroneous reference numeral(s) and to include mention of the previously-unmentioned reference numeral(s). As such is believed to obviate all the listed concerns, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings are respectfully requested.

Any spelling, idiomatic, grammatical and/or other informality noted during further review of the disclosure/specification will be corrected.

REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FORMAL DRAWINGS

As required at Item 3 on page 2 of the 4 December 2003 Action, Applicant submits herewith six (6) sheets of replacement formal drawings for Figures 1-10. Applicant requests approval and acknowledgment of the formal drawings, and printing of the replacement formal figures in any patent issuing hereon.

PENDING CLAIMS

Claims 1-4 were pending in the application at the time of the Office Action. Unrelated to any prior art, scope or rejection, appropriate Claims have been amended, added or deleted in order to adjust a clarity and/or focus of Applicant's claimed invention. That is, the amendments to the claims are unrelated to any prior art or scope adjustment, and are simply clarified claims in which Applicant is presently interested. At entry of this paper, Claims 1-3 and 5-15 are now pending in the application for consideration and examination.

REJECTION UNDER §112, 2ND ¶-OBVIATED VIA CLAIM AMENDMENT

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 USC §112, 2ND ¶, as being indefinite for the concerns listed at Item 8 on page 3 of the Office Action. Unrelated to any prior art, scope or rejection, Claim 3 has been carefully reviewed and carefully amended where appropriate in order to address the Office Action listed concerns. As the foregoing is believed to address all §112, 2ND ¶ concerns, reconsideration and withdrawal of the §112, 2ND ¶ rejection are respectfully requested.

DUPLICATE CLAIMS OBJECTION UNDER 37 CFR §1.75 - CLAIMS AMENDED

Applicant respectfully notes the 37 CFR §1.75 objection of Claims 1 and 4 as allegedly being improper duplicate claims. Unrelated to any rejection, Claim 4 has now been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, thus rendering the objection thereof obsolete at this time. As the foregoing is believed to have addressed all

§1.75 duplicate claims concerns, reconsideration and withdrawal of the §1.75 duplicate claims objection are respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC §102 - TRAVERSED

The 35 USC §102 rejection of Claims 1-4 as being anticipated by Perlman (US 5,455,865 A) is respectfully traversed, but the present clarifying amendments to Applicant's claims have rendered such rejections obsolete, and accordingly, traversal arguments are not appropriate at this time. However, Applicant respectfully submits the following to preclude renewal of any such rejections against Applicant's clarified claims.

All descriptions of Applicant's disclosed and claimed invention, and all descriptions and rebuttal arguments regarding the applied prior art, as previously submitted by Applicant in any form, are repeated and incorporated herein by reference. Further, all Office Action statements regarding the prior art rejections are respectfully traversed. As additional arguments, Applicant respectfully submits the following.

Unrelated to any prior art rejection, Claim 4 has now been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, thus rendering this rejection of such claims obsolete at this time. Patentability of remaining ones of the rejected claims are supported as follows.

In order to properly support a §102 anticipatory-type rejection, any applied art reference must disclose each and every limitation of any rejected claim. The applied art does not adequately support a §102 anticipatory-type rejection because, at

minimum, such applied art does not disclose (or suggest) the following discussed limitations of Applicant's claims.

Applicant's disclosed and claimed invention is directed to arrangements concerning DNS (domain name servers) on a network (*e.g.*, the world wide web/internet). A semi-advantageous DNS may store translation and/or other information concerning domain names distributed across the network. Applicant's advantageous arrangements have a DNS which further stores public keys corresponding to the domain names, such that when a remote host makes inquiry to the DNS concerning a particular domain name, Applicant's arrangement can further respond with public key data concerning the domain name. The public key will have either been prestored within the DNS, or the DNS would manage finding out such public key data from another trusted DNS.

Turning now to rebuttal of the applied reference, Perlman is nothing more than a simplistic router/node network where each node is assigned an ID and private/public keys, and the public key is BROADCAST to all other nodes. The local topology is stored within each node. Stated differently, Perlman's arrangement does not disclose or suggest any type of DNS arrangement, where the DNS waits for, and responds to, public key inquiries.

In addition to the foregoing, the following additional remarks from Applicant's foreign representative are also submitted in support of traversal of the rejection and patentability of Applicant's claims.

The system disclosed in rejected Claims 1 to 3 includes hosts which issue inquiries about a public key corresponding to a domain name of other hosts, as well

as includes an expanded DNS (domain name server) for managing/storing correspondence between domain name of hosts accommodated in the network and the corresponding public keys. The expanded DNS responds by retrieving the public key corresponding to the domain name, in responding to an inquiry about a certain domain name.

Further, the server apparatus defined in additional Claims 5-9 include public key store means for storing domain name of more than one host apparatuses connected with the network and the public key in a corresponding manner. A public key processing means is included for retrieving on whether a public key corresponding to a domain name is stored in the public key store means, in response to receiving a packet inquiring about a public key corresponding to domain name of a certain host apparatus. The public key processing means responds with the public key if the public key is stored in the public key store means.

Moreover, the host apparatus defined in additional Claims 10-15 include a public key inquiry unit for asking about a public key corresponding to a domain name of another host apparatus, to receive a subsequent answer packet, and a public key store unit for storing a public key included in the answer packet and domain name of the other host apparatus in a corresponding manner.

In this way, one important characteristic of this invention is that host apparatus make inquires about a public key corresponding to a domain name of other host apparatuses to an expanded DNS, and such server answers with the public key corresponding to the inquired domain name,

In contrast, the cited reference discloses an arrangement to confirm whether an electronic signature contained in a packet received from a network by a node or router can be trusted. In the cited reference, an ID, private key or public key is assigned to a node or router, and the public key is broadcasted to all other nodes. Each node adds an electronic signature encrypted by a private key to any generated messages. The receiving nodes then confirm whether it is correct (trusted) or not by decrypting a signature with a public key of a transmitting node.

However, the cited reference does not disclose or even hint at any arrangement where nodes inquire about a public key corresponding to domain name of other nodes or router to a DNS server, or a DNS server which answers by retrieving a public key corresponding to a domain name in responding to such inquiry (as disclosed in Applicant's invention). The part pointed to in the cited reference by the Examiner only discusses the above mentioned node/router disclosure of the cited reference.

Accordingly, this invention should not be rejected under USC §102.

As a result of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art would not support a §102 anticipatory-type rejection of Applicant's claims.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of such §102 rejection, and express written allowance of all of the §102 rejected claims, are respectfully requested.

Further, at this point, it is respectfully submitted as a reminder that, if new art is now cited against any of Applicant's unamended claims, then it would not be proper to make a next action final.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

It is respectfully submitted that any and all claim amendments and/or cancellations submitted within this paper and throughout prosecution of the present application are without prejudice or disclaimer of any scope or subject matter. Further, Applicant respectfully reserves all rights to file subsequent related application(s) (including reissue applications) directed to any/all previously claimed limitations/features which have been subsequently amended or cancelled, or to any/all limitations/features not yet claimed, *i.e.*, Applicant continues (indefinitely) to maintain no intention or desire to dedicate or surrender any limitations/features of subject matter of the present application to the public.

EXAMINER INVITED TO TELEPHONE

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the local D.C. area telephone 703-312-6600, to discuss an Examiner's Amendment or other suggested action for accelerating prosecution and moving the present application to allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims listed above as presently being under consideration in the application are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of such claims is respectfully requested.

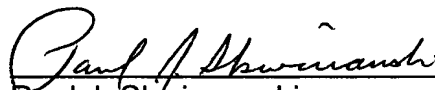
Applicant respectfully petitions the Commissioner for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Attached hereto is a Form PTO-2038 authorizing payment of

MAEDA *et al.*, SN 09/585,358
Amdt. dated 04/05/2004
Reply to OA mailed 12/04/2003

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the Petition fee (Fee Code 1251). Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper to ATS&K Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (referencing Case No. 500.38618X00).

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

Six (6) Sheets of Replacement
FORMAL Figures 1-10
Form PTO-2038 (Fee Code 1251)